

Lowell Davis Collectors Newsletter

Volume 4 Issue 3

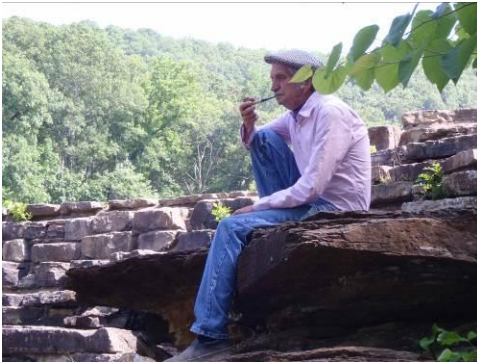
April – June 2010

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Greetings from Lowell



Lowell on rock dam at Devil’s Den State Park

Hello all my friends and collectors!

I hope you are in the best of health and that you continue to enjoy my art which is why I create it.

In this issue of my collectors newsletter you will find the latest updates on Red Oak II and an announcement of the 3rd

annual 2010 Farm Girl Fest which will be held at Red Oak II on September 18 and 19. I hope to see you at this event.

I have also included an article on a hiking trip that I made to Devil’s Den State Park in North West Arkansas. I highly recommend that you stop off there if you are heading down I540 in NW Arkansas.

There is an article about my plans for an art park in South Red Oak II and there are a number of articles for my collectors including one contributed by a long time collector of my art, Jeff Bialobrzkeski.

We are putting the final touches on my new art book, “The Dalton Gang, up to their old antics again”. It’s a great story and full of new art which I created just for this book. I believe the best I have ever done. We will be publishing this summer.

Unfortunately we did not get a winner in the 2010 Q2 Collectors Quiz so we are continuing the same quiz for another quarter, with a new prize, one of my Border Fine Arts figurines “Proud Papa”. Be sure to enter.

If you or someone else that you know are not on the list to receive my newsletter and, please send us an email: lowelldaviscollectors@att.net. You can view and download all issues of my newsletter at: www.redoakiimissouri.com.

Remember you are always welcome to visit Red Oak II.

Your friend,

Lowell Davis

Red Oak II Update



Here is an update on Red Oak II for the second quarter of 2010:

New Building for Red Oak II

In early June we did some investigation into the history of the garage that being moved from Carthage to Red Oak II. This garage was most likely built in the 1920's or 1930's. When operating it was Frank Stafford's Radiator Repair at 108 South Fulton in Carthage. Just North of this radiator repair shop on the corner of South Fulton and East Central was the Wilcox Gas & Oil filling station right on Route 66.



Lowell has found a contractor to move the building and is working on installing a foundation for the building so it will be ready for the garage when it is moved.

Renovation of Red Oak II Continues

Renovation work is a continuing task at Red Oak II. The most recent building to be renovated is the Town Hall. Here are before and after photos:



Town Hall before renovation



Town Hall after renovation

Isn't she a beauty!!

Asian Garden behind Belle Starr House

Rose's Asian garden is a favorite spot for Lowell and Rose to entertain visitors when they come to Red Oak II. Lowell and Rose have worked hard to make this such a pleasant place to sit and talk.



Rose's Asian Garden

Farm Girl Fest 2010

Third Annual
at Red Oak II in Carthage MO

September 18 from 10 AM to 5 PM
September 19 from 12 noon to 3 PM

Free Admission

Everyone Welcome

Craft Vendors
Basket Weaving
Old Fashioned Rope Making
Soap Making
Milking Demos (Goats)
Learn Art of Knitting
Old Fashioned Dutch Oven
Cooking
Horse Drawn Buggy Rides
Wool Spinning
Petting Zoo
Homemade Ice Cream
Old Fashioned Tractor Show

Come and enjoy a fun filled day for
the whole family!

Booths available for \$30 (10' x 10')

For more info email:

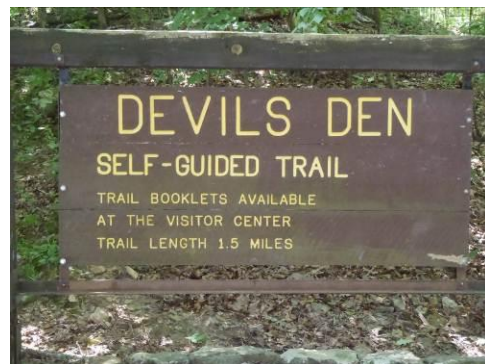
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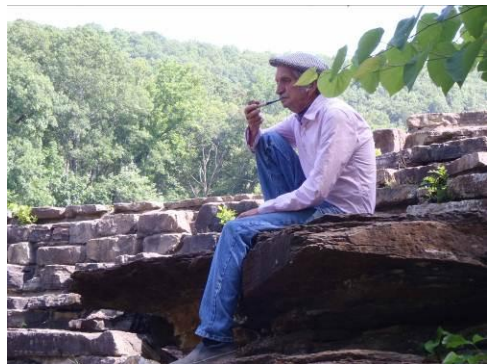
Lowell Goes Hiking at Devil's Den State Park

On a trip in early June to Fort Smith Arkansas, Lowell stopped off along the way at Devil's Den State Park and hiked the 1 ½ mile trail along the caves. The park is named after the caves (dens) which are home to swarms of bats. Unfortunately he could not enter the caves as the bats had picked up a disease which killed them off and the caves were closed to prevent spread of this disease.

Here's a pictorial story of Lowell's visit to Devil's Den State Park:



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Art Park for South Red Oak II

Lowell's metal sculptures that he makes from old vehicles and other materials are favorite attractions at Red Oak II.



Home from Market



King of the Mountain



Friendly Fire

Lowell has also made metal signs for various area businesses and towns.



Crap Duster



It Ain't No Wonder His Wives Left Him



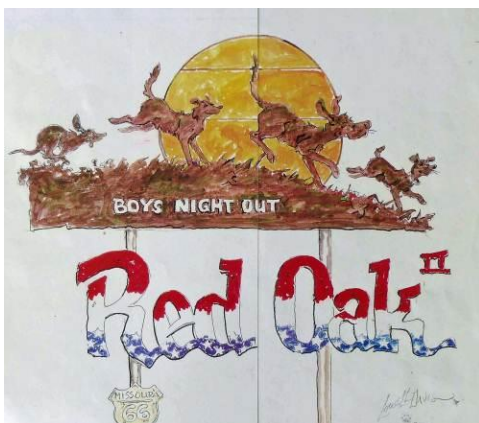
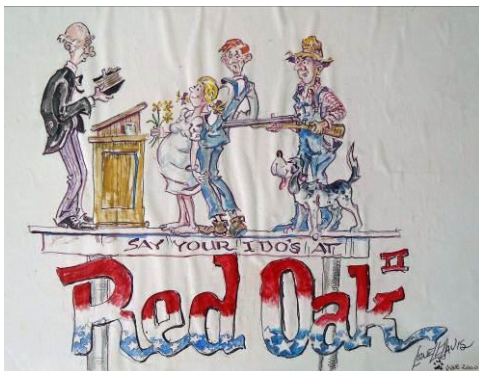
Debs Family Restaurant



Welcome to Jasper Missouri

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Lowell really enjoys doing this kind of art and is planning to create more of these sculptures to exhibit in an Art Park with walking paths, benches and tables at the South end of Red Oak II in the open area just north of the Otis Cabin and East of the pond. Lowell had created sketches for a number of metal sculptures that he wanted to do as signs and which make very nice metal sculptures for the art park. Here is an assortment of sketches of some of the metal sculptures that he is considering.



Lowell is also in the process of rebuilding his Plumber's Nightmare in front of his Belle Starr House.

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Original Plumber's Nightmare

Kaiser Porcelain Little Critters Plates Variant

Kaiser Porcelain of Germany had tried to use European artists to do North American wildlife in porcelain and on collector plates. Kaiser's artists used models from museums and zoos but they were not capturing the soul or the correct proportions of the animals. Kaiser decided to try an American artist to do art work for their figurines and plates. In 1972 Kaiser commissioned Lowell Davis while he was in Texas to do wildlife paintings for a set of 6 plates to celebrate Kaiser Porcelain's 100th Anniversary. Lowell believes he was the first American artist to be commissioned by any European company.

Lowell mailed his paintings for the set of six plates to Kaiser but when Kaiser transferred them to their porcelain plates, they were not happy with the appearance. Kaiser had Lowell fly to Germany during Oktoberfest to work with their artists to improve the look of the plates. Kaiser had used a plain white background on the plates and they wanted Lowell to help their artists "juice

them up" by making the background more appealing. Lowell changed the background to a yellowish color with a brown edge which was much more appealing. Lowell brought the set (#1 of 5,000) of the plates with white background back with him to the US and gave them to an accountant friend in Dallas who had helped Lowell prepare for his trip to Germany. When the accountant passed on and the set of six plates got split up and sold separately (lesson here, don't split up sets and also keep those original boxes). One of Lowell's collectors from Carthage MO recently bought the White Footed Mouse plate with white background and brought it to show to Lowell. Here are photos of the white background plate that was not produced and a plate with colored background as was issued:

White Footed Mouse plate (white background)



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White Footed Mouse plate (colored background)



Belle Starr Bells

As many of you know Lowell, his wife Rose and their son Aaron live in the Belle Starr House at Red Oak II.



Belle Starr House at Red Oak II

Myra Maybelle Shirley Reed Starr (February 5, 1848 - February 3, 1889), better known as Belle Starr, was a notorious American outlaw during the Civil War period. She was born and grew up in this house. Lowell acquired

the house and moved it to Red Oak II where at one time, it was a Belle Starr Museum and was full of Belle Starr memorabilia. In honor of Belle Starr, Lowell designed a Belle Starr bell which was sold at the Red Oak II General Store. We recently acquired one of these bronze bells for the Lowell Davis Museum:



Bronze Belle Starr Bell (front view)



Bronze Belle Starr Bell (signature)

The seller told us that this bronze bell had been acquired from an American Bell Association member who had collected bells since the 1960s and acquired this particular bell in 1995. The bell originally came from a Toledo, OH collection.

Recently we also received an inquiry about the details behind an identical shaped Belle Starr bell but in pewter. The collectors that own the pewter bell acquired it at an antique shop in Braselton GA.

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Pewter Belle Starr Bell (front view)

Lowell loves to talk about Belle Starr and is very knowledgeable about her. Next time you visit Red Oak II just stop by the Belle Starr House and sit with Lowell on the porch or in Rose's Asian garden and let him tell you all that he knows about Belle Starr.

Collectors Article by Jeff Bialobrzkeski

Jeff Bialobrzkeski who won a Grandpa's Ole Tom Giclée print in the 2009 Q4 Lowell Davis Collectors Quiz sent the following article with photos. Thanks for the article Jeff!

Attached is the photo of Grandpa's Ole Tom figurine next to my new Giclée prize.



Grandpa's Ole Tom figurine and Giclée

I have included some photos that you don't often see online. Hopefully you can put these in the next newsletter.

To someone like me, who has collected Lowell's figurines for 21 years, and has almost everything he's ever done, part of the fun now is finding differently painted versions of pieces I already own. I am glad I can share some of these photos with fellow Lowell Davis figurines collectors.

I have often seen the Cats in Season collection, but usually just the original six (Thanksgiving, Halloween etc....) but here are three others that came out later in that collection, along with another elusive cat sculpture entitled Two Timer.



Clockwise from back:

Two Timer, Get Well (Cats in Season), Happy Anniversary (Cats in Season), Mother's Day (Cats in Season)

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Another newer cat figurine not seen often is *Homebodies*, here, along with an older figurine entitled *Hightailin' It* with a brown goose (rather than the more frequently seen white goose).



Homebodies and Hightailin' It (brown goose)

Next is the *Quiltin' Bee* Collection of painted pewter thimble holders that came out around 1992.



Quiltin' Bee Collection clockwise from back:
Big Like Daddy, Lunch Break, Corn Flabin', Goldie and Her Peeps, Birds of a Feather

I think there were a total of six in that collection, I am missing one.

*Finally, most everyone has seen *The Bride*, the first club piece, but not many have seen the "sequel" *The Honeymoon's Over* with the brightly colored rooster.*



The Bride and The Honeymoon's Over

For everyone's information, the one *Quiltin' Bee* thimble holder that Jeff is missing is *What's For Dessert*:



Quiltin' Bee Collection *What's for Dessert*

If you have an article that you would like to do for a future newsletter, please contact: lowelldaviscollectors@att.net

2010 Midwest Gathering of the Artists

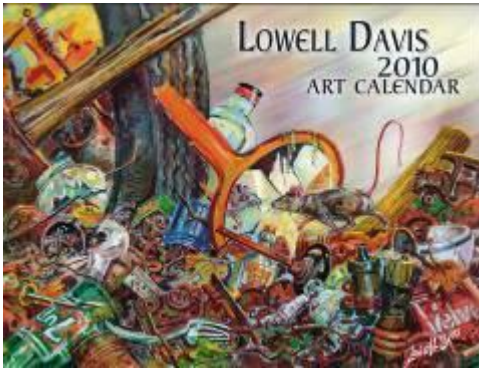
Mark your calendars for Friday, September 10 and Saturday, September 11 for the 2010 Midwest Gathering of the Artists. For details click on the following link:

www.redoakiimissouri.com/index/links/midwest-gathering-of-the-artists/index.html

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2010 Calendars

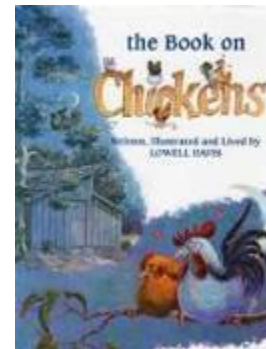
We still have a limited number of 2010 Lowell Davis art calendars available for sale. This is the 4th year we have produced these calendars which have been very popular. It contains prints from a selection of 12 of Lowell's most beautiful paintings selected to fit each month of the year:



Lowell's Autobiography



Snow Folks



The Book on Chickens

In 2010, we shifted to using a non-gloss paper for the calendars allowing us to offer a very high quality calendar at a more reasonable price. You can order at: www.redoakigeneralstore.com.

Lowell Davis Books

Rose asked to remind you all about Lowell's three books that that are a must have for Lowell Davis collectors.

An order form for these books can be found on the Red Oak II website at: <http://www.redoakigeneralstore.com/lowell-davis-books/index.html> or you can send an email to Rose at: redoakrose@ecarthage.com.

Tell Us about Your Favorite Lowell Davis Art Work

We would love to hear about your favorite Lowell Davis art, what your first Lowell Davis art piece was and how it

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got you started collecting his art. Please send via email to: lowelldaviscollectors@att.net. Attach photos too. We will put your story in a future edition of the newsletter.

Lowell received this comment about a favorite Lowell Davis figurine: "Mr. Davis, Just a quick thank you for the pleasure you gave my mother. Her favorite piece was the three coyotes "Prairie Chorus" which I recently inherited. I remember my mother singing "Home on the Range" to my boys when they were quite a bit younger."



Prairie Chorus

Restoration of Lowell Davis Cold Cast Porcelain Figurines

Do you have a damaged Lowell Davis figurine that you would like to have restored? Lowell's daughter April Davis, an outstanding artist in her own right, can do an excellent restoration of your figurine. If you want to contact April about repair/restoration work, send an email to lowelldaviscollectors@att.net.

Collectors Exchange

Due to a large number of individuals with collections of Lowell Davis figurines contacting us to help them find a new

home for their collections, we are creating a Lowell Davis Collectors Exchange on the Red Oak II website. This way we can have all items listed that are currently available as updated by the collectors listing them. Here's a link to the Collectors Exchange: <http://www.redoakiimissouri.com/index/collectors-resources/lowell-davis-collectors-exchange.html>

If you have any Lowell Davis art or collectibles that you would like to swap, buy or sell in our Collectors Exchange, just email a detailed description of the items to: lowelldaviscollectors@att.net.

Lowell Davis Collectors Quiz

No Winner for Lowell Davis Collectors Quiz 2010 Q2

We did not receive any correct entries for the Lowell Davis Collectors Quiz 2010 Q2 so we are continuing the same quiz for another quarter.

Lowell Davis Collectors Quiz 2010 Q3

For the 2010 Q3 Lowell Davis Collectors quiz, the winner will receive a beautiful Border Fine Arts cold cast porcelain figurine entitled "Proud Papa":



This figurine is brand new with the original Border Fine Arts box.

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In case of a tie, there will be a random drawing from among all correct entries to select the winner.

To enter, send your answers to the following questions by email to lowelldaviscollectors@att.net. Entries must be received by 12:00 midnight US ET on September 30, 2010. The winner will be announced in the next issue of this newsletter.

As we did not have a winner last quarter, we are running the same quiz questions again as follows:

- 1) What is the name of the art show, auction and sale held annually in Carthage Missouri?
- 2) What are the names of the three founders of this art show?
- 3) What was the date (month, day, year) of the first art show in this series?
- 4) In what facility was the first art show in this series held?
- 5) In what facility was the 2009 art show in this series held?
- 6) Identify all the individuals in the following photo (hint, they are related to Lowell Davis)?



We hope everyone will enter. Good luck and have fun!

Contact Us

Lowell and Rose Davis:

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Lowell Davis Collectors:

lowelldaviscollectors@att.net

Red Oak II General Store:

redoakiigeneralstore@att.net

Larry Sernyk, Collectors Newsletter:

lowelldaviscollectors@att.net

Web Links

Red Oak II Missouri:

www.redoakiimissouri.com

Red Oak II General Store:

www.redoakiigeneralstore.com

Credits

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